[fic] Human AU: Heartbreak

• May. 7th, 2011 at 5:06 AM

Title: Human AU: Heartbreak.
Fandom: Supernatural.
Rating: PG.
Warnings: Mentions of angelcest.
Pairings/Characters: Michael, Lucifer, Raphael, Gabriel. Also God, as He finally makes an appearance.
Word Count: 1,384 words.
Summary: The beginning of the end of the road is here as an offer is made, and some harsh truths are said.
Note: Written for **spn_30snapshots**, with the prompt heartbreak being used for this one. Twenty-six down, four to go!

I'm in the home stretch now, folks - we're not done yet, but we're getting there!

Also? Don't start reading here. Go here and start with #4, as that's the first story in this collection. You'll be confused otherwise.

No one tells Michael about angels. Gabriel admits that they've all lost their memories. Raphael sits down with Michael and tells them that they're brothers.

Lucifer pulls Raphael away one day and tells him that he doesn't want Michael to change back to who he was. Raphael hesitantly admits that he agrees. He doesn't add that he wants the same to apply to Lucifer and Gabriel.

He remembers the tension that filled the house when he first 'arrived', and when Raphael does admit quietly that he thinks they're all off better without memories, Lucifer touches his hand.

He kisses him. Raphael remembers feeling hatred towards him, and returns the kiss.

"Thank you," he breathes.

Lucifer offers a smile back.

There's a soft laugh, and Raphael jerks around to see Gabriel watching them.

"You were listening," he says.

"Watching too," Gabriel says. "And while I agree with the sentiment and all, I think we're definitely missing something."

"Would the price be worth it to have that back?" Lucifer asks.

"I...probably not," Gabriel says. "But you two have got to admit that we all want it anyways. Am I right?"

Raphael sighs and nods.

"I think," Lucifer says slowly, "That whatever happened to us...whoever did this...I don't think they're done. I think we might meet them soon."

Raphael's never seen that look on Gabriel's face before. But he knows...deep down, he knows...and he recognizes fear.

"I don't want to," Gabriel says, and turns away.

"Why?" Raphael asks.

"I don't know!"

And there, there is the crux of the problem.

They're afraid, angry, worse. They don't know why.

Lucifer (and why, why is he named like that? Raphael knows in his bones that they're exactly who they're named after, and yet -) Lucifer is the one to turn away from them.

"I'm going to make lunch," Lucifer says.

Raphael feels something in him go numb.

"No," Gabriel says, and Raphael's never heard desperation like that before. "We're going to face this together, when it comes. Right?"

Lucifer turns back.

"Then we need to tell Michael everything," Lucifer says.

"We're trying to protect him," Raphael reminds him.

"All of us or none of us," Lucifer says.

"I'll tell him," Gabriel says. When Raphael looks at him he thinks he's missing something. He thinks he doesn't understand Gabriel.

"When?" Lucifer asks.

"Over lunch. So I'll help you make it. Okay?"

Raphael nods, absently hugging himself. "I'll help," He tells them. He's thinking that he won't let himself be left behind.

Not this time, he thinks.

Before any of them can do anything, before any of them can tell Michael everything: there is someone in the kitchen.

It's not Michael.

Gabriel is the one brave enough to simply walk in and demand a name.

Raphael watches Gabriel go in and thinks that they should be shaking, kneeling, *something*. There's fear in him, and longing, and a terrible anger. He feels

Lucifer put a hand on his shoulder and welcomes the support, before he follows Gabriel in.

He knows Gabriel will need support, no matter how brave he is pretending to be.

"Who are you?" Gabriel asks.

Raphael hears Lucifer breathe in sharply behind him. Raphael thinks he's seen someone wear white like that before. He thinks...

"Hello, Gabriel," says the stranger.

Raphael reaches to touch Gabriel's shoulder, to let him know that they're there -

- and he remembers. Everything. Memories, unavoidable memories, and Raphael is pulling his hand back and struggling with his new-found shame and conflicting emotions and -

"Father," he says. He's on his knees already and he's not surprised, even if Gabriel looks like he is (*the coward*) and then he sees comprehension slam into Gabriel's expression.

Raphael doesn't need to look to know that Lucifer (*the traitor*) is following suit.

His mind is racing, trying to figure out why God is here now, trying to figure out what the point of the entire experience has been, and most importantly what he needs to do now, who he needs to show loyalty to in order to find favor with God.

"Dad," Gabriel says, and Raphael sees him rub his face. "Are...are we done yet?"

Raphael slowly stands, unsure if he should, aware that neither Gabriel or Lucifer has knelt. Aware that for all of his memories he is still painfully human, and that without Grace then his situation hasn't changed, not truly.

"Almost, my son," God says.

"Almost?" Lucifer asks.

There is silence, and then there is Michael. Raphael turns when he hears footsteps, and there is Michael in the doorway, and there is - there. Raphael sees the moment Michael remembers everything, and aches for him.

Michael opens his mouth, closes it, and kneels.

"Get up," God says. Michael does.

Michael is quiet, but attentive, and Raphael turns his attention back to God. (Where it should be, he thinks.)

Raphael thinks he's prepared for anything that God says next. He has faith, and trust, and -

"None of you are worthy to enter Heaven," God says.

Distantly, Raphael feels himself digging his nails into his palms and with a detached sense of horror he hears himself ask - no, demand -

"What does that mean?" It's not because they're human, is he? Raphael's mind is racing, he can't understand -

"Your behavior during my absence," God says. "During this Apocalypse that wasn't meant

to be. None of you have pleased me. Not one of you."

Raphael stops, and only distantly hears Gabriel protest and be reprimanded, and only distantly hears Michael defend their strict adherence to prophecy and their last instructions.

Raphael thinks that maybe it would have been better if God were dead, and hates himself for the thought. Anger is rising in him, and horror, and shame, and he stops himself from expressing that anger, stops himself from everything because if he doesn't stop he'll break.

There is a hand on his shoulder, and he looks at God, and then down. What right has he to even look upon the face of his Father? What right does he have to even stand in His presence, if he has displeased Him?

"I forgive you," he hears, and doesn't believe it.

But then his basest instincts take over and he believes it, because - there is nothing worst in creation than an angel who does no believe, he tells himself this.

"Father," He manages, and his voice cracks.

"I forgive all of you," God says.

Raphael thinks that Lucifer shouldn't, but he stops himself, because even if he is human now, what right has he to protest God's actions?

"You may earn back Heaven," God says, and he has Raphael's full attention.

"How?" Gabriel asks.

"I will return you all to your Grace," God says. "And you will do my bidding on Earth until you have earned your entrance into my Kingdom."

"You...don't mean observation," Raphael says, dreading the answer.

"I mean a variety of tasks, primarily regarding humanity and its troubles."

"We'll need vessels," Gabriel says, and Raphael thinks that he is asking unnecessary questions, he doesn't understand why Gabriel would need to ask that.

"You have them," God says.

There's silence while God lets them adjust to the idea. There's silence as God gets himself a glass of water. Raphael makes a soft sound and forces himself to be reasonable for this. He can't fall apart in front of his Father, he reminds himself.

"There is one condition," God finally says.

"What is it?" Michael asks.

"You will agree to these terms unanimously, or you will remain here and live out the rest of lives as humans." God's eyes are on them as he takes a sip of his water. "If you agree, then you must understand that you will all return to Heaven together or not at all."

Raphael's mouth starts before he can stop himself. "This includes Lucifer? And Gabriel?"

"And Michael," God confirms. "Do not think of yourself as bearing the lightest sins, Raphael. You haven't acknowledged the reasons for why I am displeased with you, and until you can repent..."

Raphael bites his tongue and closes his eyes at the pain of it.

"I'll return in one day, and hear your decision then."

And God is gone, just like that.

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